

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
Southern District of Texas
Holding Session in Houston

ENTERED

February 02, 2016

David J. Bradley, Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
V.
HORTENCIA MEDELES-ARGUELLO
A/K/A Raquel Medeles Garcia

JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE

CASE NUMBER: 4:13CR00628-001

USM NUMBER: 54506-379

☒ See Additional Aliases.Ali R. Fazel

Defendant's Attorney

THE DEFENDANT:

- ☐ pleaded guilty to count(s) _____
- ☐ pleaded nolo contendere to count(s) _____
which was accepted by the court.
- ☒ was found guilty on count(s) 1S, 2S, 3S, 4S, 5S and 6S on April 24, 2015.
after a plea of not guilty.

The defendant is adjudicated guilty of these offenses:

| <u>Title & Section</u> | <u>Nature of Offense</u> | <u>Offense Ended</u> | <u>Count</u> |
|--|---|----------------------|--------------|
| 18 U.S.C. §§ 1594(c) and 1591 | Sex trafficking conspiracy | 10/31/2013 | 1S |
| 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I), 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii), and 1324(a)(1)(B)(i) | Conspiracy to harbor illegal aliens for purposes of commercial advantage and private financial gain | 10/31/2013 | 2S |
| 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) | Money laundering | 08/23/2010 | 3S |
| 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) | Money laundering | 05/01/2012 | 4S |

☒ See Additional Counts of Conviction.

The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through 9 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

- ☐ The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s) _____
- ☐ Count(s) _____ ☐ is ☐ are dismissed on the motion of the .

It is ordered that the defendant must notify the United States attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid. If ordered to pay restitution, the defendant must notify the court and United States attorney of material changes in economic circumstances.

January 20, 2016

Date of Imposition of Judgment



Signature of Judge

DAVID HITTNER
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
Name and Title of Judge

DEFENDANT: **HORTENCIA MEDELES-ARGUELLO**
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ADDITIONAL COUNTS OF CONVICTION

| <u>Title & Section</u> | <u>Nature of Offense</u> | <u>Offense Ended</u> | <u>Count</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) | Money laundering | 05/01/2012 | 5S |
| 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i) | Money laundering | 11/07/2011 | 6S |

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ADDITIONAL ALIASES

The Court notes the following alias(es) are manifested on the defendant's Indictment:

Tencha

DEFENDANT: **HORTENCIA MEDELES-ARGUELLO**
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IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a total term of Life.

This term consists of LIFE as to Count 1S, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) MONTHS as to Count 2S, and TWO HUNDRED FORTY (240) MONTHS as to each of Counts 3S, 4S, 5S, and 6S, to run concurrently, for a total term of LIFE.

- ☐ See Additional Imprisonment Terms.
- ☐ The court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:
- ☒ The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.
- ☐ The defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this district:
- ☐ at _____ ☐ a.m. ☐ p.m. on _____.
- ☐ as notified by the United States Marshal.
- ☐ The defendant shall surrender for service of sentence at the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons:
- ☐ before 2 p.m. on _____.
- ☐ as notified by the United States Marshal.
- ☐ as notified by the Probation or Pretrial Services Office.

RETURN

I have executed this judgment as follows:

Defendant delivered on _____ to _____
at _____, with a certified copy of this judgment.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL

By _____
DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL

DEFENDANT: **HORTENCIA MEDELES-ARGUELLO**
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SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be on supervised release for a term of: 5 years.

This term consists of FIVE (5) YEARS as to Count 1S and THREE (3) YEARS as to each of Counts 2S, 3S, 4S, 5S, and 6S. All such terms to run concurrently, for a total of FIVE (5) YEARS.

☐ See Additional Supervised Release Terms.

The defendant must report to the probation office in the district to which the defendant is released within 72 hours of release from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons.

The defendant shall not commit another federal, state or local crime.

The defendant shall not unlawfully possess a controlled substance. The defendant shall refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. The defendant shall submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court. *(for offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994)*

☐ The above drug testing condition is suspended, based on the court's determination that the defendant poses a low risk of future substance abuse. (Check, if applicable.)

☒ The defendant shall not possess a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or any other dangerous weapon. (Check, if applicable.)

☒ The defendant shall cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer. (Check, if applicable.)

☒ The defendant shall comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (42 U.S.C. § 16901, *et seq.*) as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state registration in which he or she resides, works, is a student, or was convicted of a qualifying offense. (Check, if applicable)

☐ The defendant shall participate in an approved program for domestic violence. (Check, if applicable.)

If this judgment imposes a fine or restitution, it is a condition of supervised release that the defendant pay in accordance with the Schedule of Payments sheet of this judgment.

The defendant must comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court as well as with any additional conditions on the attached page.

STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

☒ See Special Conditions of Supervision.

- 1) the defendant shall not leave the judicial district without the permission of the court or probation officer;
- 2) the defendant shall report to the probation officer and shall submit a truthful and complete written report within the first five days of each month;
- 3) the defendant shall answer truthfully all inquiries by the probation officer and follow the instructions of the probation officer;
- 4) the defendant shall support his or her dependents and meet other family responsibilities;
- 5) the defendant shall work regularly at a lawful occupation, unless excused by the probation officer for schooling, training, or other acceptable reasons;
- 6) the defendant shall notify the probation officer at least ten days prior to any change in residence or employment;
- 7) the defendant shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol and shall not purchase, possess, use, distribute, or administer any controlled substance or any paraphernalia related to any controlled substances, except as prescribed by a physician;
- 8) the defendant shall not frequent places where controlled substances are illegally sold, used, distributed, or administered;
- 9) the defendant shall not associate with any persons engaged in criminal activity and shall not associate with any person convicted of a felony, unless granted permission to do so by the probation officer;
- 10) the defendant shall permit a probation officer to visit him or her at any time at home or elsewhere and shall permit confiscation of any contraband observed in plain view of the probation officer;
- 11) the defendant shall notify the probation officer within seventy-two hours of being arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer;
- 12) the defendant shall not enter into any agreement to act as an informer or a special agent of a law enforcement agency without the permission of the court; and
- 13) as directed by the probation officer, the defendant shall notify third parties of risks that may be occasioned by the defendant's criminal record or personal history or characteristics and shall permit the probation officer to make such notifications and to confirm the defendant's compliance with such notification requirement.

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SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

The defendant shall report the address where the defendant will reside and any subsequent change of residence to the probation officer responsible for supervision and the defendant shall register with the sex offender registration agency in any state where the defendant resides, is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student, as directed by the probation officer. The probation officer will provide the state officials with any and all information required by the state sex offender registration agency and may direct the defendant to report to that agency personally for additional processing, such as photographing and fingerprinting.

The defendant shall not seek or maintain employment, supervise, volunteer, or participate in any program and/or activity where minors under the age of 18 would congregate, without prior written approval of the United States Probation Officer. This would include athletic, religious, volunteer, civic, or cultural activities designed for minors under the age of 18.

The defendant shall not have any contact with any minor children under the age of 18 without prior written permission of the United States Probation Officer.

DEFENDANT: **HORTENCIA MEDELES-ARGUELLO**
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The defendant must pay the total criminal monetary penalties under the schedule of payments on Sheet 6.

| | <u>Assessment</u> | <u>Fine</u> | <u>Restitution</u> |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| TOTALS | \$600.00 | | \$840,289.10 |

A \$100 special assessment is ordered as to each of Counts 1S, 2S, 3S, 4S, 5S, and 6S, for a total of \$600.

- ☐ See Additional Terms for Criminal Monetary Penalties.
- ☐ The determination of restitution is deferred until _____. An Amended Judgment in a Criminal Case (AO 245C) will be entered after such determination.
- ☒ The defendant must make restitution (including community restitution) to the following payees in the amount listed below.

If the defendant makes a partial payment, each payee shall receive an approximately proportioned payment, unless specified otherwise in the priority order or percentage payment column below. However, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3664(i), all nonfederal payees must be paid before the United States is paid.

| <u>Name of Payee</u> | <u>Total Loss*</u> | <u>Restitution Ordered</u> | <u>Priority or Percentage</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| R.T. | | \$97,600.00 | |
| E.E. | | 75,680.00 | |
| A.V. | | 87,100.00 | |
| A.L. | | 490,229.10 | |
| D.L. | | 89,680.00 | |

- ☐ See Additional Restitution Payees.

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| TOTALS | <u>\$0.00</u> | <u>\$840,289.10</u> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|

- ☐ Restitution amount ordered pursuant to plea agreement \$ _____
- ☒ The defendant must pay interest on restitution and a fine of more than \$2,500, unless the restitution or fine is paid in full before the fifteenth day after the date of the judgment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(f). All of the payment options on Sheet 6 may be subject to penalties for delinquency and default, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3612(g).
- ☐ The court determined that the defendant does not have the ability to pay interest and it is ordered that:
- ☐ the interest requirement is waived for the ☐ fine ☐ restitution.
- ☐ the interest requirement for the ☐ fine ☐ restitution is modified as follows:
- ☐ Based on the Government's motion, the Court finds that reasonable efforts to collect the special assessment are not likely to be effective. Therefore, the assessment is hereby remitted.

* Findings for the total amount of losses are required under Chapters 109A, 110, 110A, and 113A of Title 18 for offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994, but before April 23, 1996.

DEFENDANT: **HORTENCIA MEDELES-ARGUELLO**
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Having assessed the defendant's ability to pay, payment of the total criminal monetary penalties is due as follows:

- A ☒ Lump sum payment of \$600.00 due immediately, balance due
☐ not later than _____, or
☒ in accordance with ☐ C, ☐ D, ☐ E, or ☒ F below; or
- B ☐ Payment to begin immediately (may be combined with ☐ C, ☐ D, or ☐ F below); or
- C ☐ Payment in equal _____ installments of _____ over a period of _____, to commence _____ days after the date of this judgment; or
- D ☐ Payment in equal _____ installments of _____ over a period of _____, to commence _____ days after release from imprisonment to a term of supervision; or
- E ☐ Payment during the term of supervised release will commence within _____ days after release from imprisonment. The court will set the payment plan based on an assessment of the defendant's ability to pay at that time; or
- F ☒ Special instructions regarding the payment of criminal monetary penalties:
 Payable to: Clerk, U.S. District Court, Attn: Finance, P.O. Box 61010, Houston, TX 77208. Balance due in installments of 50% of any wages earned while in prison in accordance with the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program. Any balance remaining after release from imprisonment shall be due in monthly installments of \$200 to commence 60 days after release from imprisonment to a term of supervision.

Unless the court has expressly ordered otherwise, if this judgment imposes imprisonment, payment of criminal monetary penalties is due during imprisonment. All criminal monetary penalties, except those payments made through the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, are made to the clerk of the court.

The defendant shall receive credit for all payments previously made toward any criminal monetary penalties imposed.

☒ Joint and Several

Case Number

Defendant and Co-Defendant Names
(including defendant number)

Total Amount

Joint and Several
Amount

Corresponding Payee,
if appropriate

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--|
| Hortencia Medeles-Arguello 4:13CR00628-001 | \$840,289.10 | \$840,289.10 | |
| Delia Diaz 4:13CR00628-002 | \$534,140.00 | \$534,140.00 | |
| Lilia Medeles Cerda 4:13CR00628-009 | \$569,340.00 | \$569,340.00 | |

- ☒ See Additional Defendants and Co-Defendants Held Joint and Several.
- ☐ The defendant shall pay the cost of prosecution.
- ☐ The defendant shall pay the following court cost(s):
- ☒ The defendant shall forfeit the defendant's interest in the following property to the United States:
 As set forth in the order of forfeiture executed by this Court on January 20, 2016.
- ☐ See Additional Forfeited Property.

Payments shall be applied in the following order: (1) assessment, (2) restitution principal, (3) restitution interest, (4) fine principal, (5) fine interest, (6) community restitution, (7) penalties, and (8) costs, including cost of prosecution and court costs.

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ADDITIONAL DEFENDANTS AND CO-DEFENDANTS HELD JOINT AND SEVERAL**Case Number****Defendant and Co-Defendant Names
(including defendant number)****Total Amount****Joint and Several
Amount****Corresponding Payee,
if appropriate**

Talat Crippin 4:13CR00628-012

\$162,780.00

\$162,780.00

Diana Medeles Garcia 4:13CR00628-013

\$534,140.00

\$534,140.00